

tions to promote the agricultural interests of the State are receiving attention.

Great importance will hereafter be attached to the development of the co-operative movement with a view to extend the co-operative principle to many forms of business in villages and to rural transactions generally.

A new Village Courts Act has just been passed; the establishment of Village Panchayets for the management of village sanitation, irrigation and other functions of the village communities will receive the earliest consideration of Government.

As described already, orders will issue shortly regarding the practical measures proposed for reducing the unhealthiness and arresting the decline of population in the Malnad.

Following the example of the Government of India, larger grants are being given and much attention is being paid to the development of education within the State. A scheme for establishing a University for Mysore is engaging the attention of His Highness' Government.

The above are measures in regard to which we see our way clear. There are numerous other matters under investigation or in various stages of development or study.

4. — Retrospect of Thirty Years' Administration.

52. It may also probably interest you, if I give here a short retrospect of the progress which the country has made since 1881 during the 30 years ended 1910-11. As every one of you may be aware, the Rendition of the country took place on the 25th March 1881, after a very successful administration by the British Commission for half a century. Owing, however, to the terrible effects of the great famine of 1876-78,—the severest through which the State has passed during the past fifty years,—the beneficial effects of the British administration were

not visible to their fullest advantage in 1881. In the words of Dewan Rangacharlu that famine "cost the State 160 lakhs of rupees, involved the Government in a debt of 80 lakhs and withal deprived the province of a million of its population and crippled its resources for years to come."

The population of the State which in 1871 numbered 5,055,402 souls, fell to 4,186,188 in 1881 on account of the famine of 1876-78 and rose to 5,806,193 in 1911, or an increase of 15 per cent over that of 1871.

The town population which in 1881 was computed at 13 per cent of the total population fell to 11 per cent in 1911, probably for want of sufficient occupation for the people in the towns.

The population dependent on agriculture which in 1881 was 33 lakhs rose to 42 lakhs in 1911.

As regards agriculture, the occupied area, excluding coffee, amounted to 4,213,505 acres in 1881-82 and 7,438,463 acres in 1911-12. The increase is 79 per cent. The growth of agriculture since the Rendition has been extensive but not intensive.

The total revenue of the State which amounted to about 50 lakhs at the beginning of the last century was 101 lakhs in 1880-81 and it rose to 247 lakhs in 1910-11 including what is known, as "fortuitous revenue" from the Gold Mines. Land Revenue has increased from 69 to 106½ lakhs, Excise from 10 to 43.69 lakhs, and Forest from 7 to 21 lakhs.

The expenditure also has more than doubled, viz., from 101 lakhs in 1880-81 to 223 lakhs in 1910-11. The charges against land revenue have increased from 14 to 21 lakhs, excise from a small sum of Rs. 18,000 to over 3 lakhs, forest from 2 lakhs to nearly 7 lakhs, law and justice including jails from 6 to 8½ lakhs, education (from provincial revenues) from 1.50 to 10.53 lakhs, medical from 1.63 to 7.20 lakhs and public works from 10 to 30 lakhs.

The railways which were only 50 miles in 1880-81 rose to 411 miles in 1910-11 and the capital outlay on them in the same period from 25 to 250 lakhs.

The mileage of provincial roads has nearly doubled since the Rendition.

Among other public works may be mentioned the extension of channel irrigation in the Cauvery and Kapani valleys, restoration and repairs to numerous tanks and the construction of two great public works, viz.,

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the Cauvery Power Scheme and the Marikanave reservoir. The Cities of Bangalore and Mysore were extended and improved.

The expenditure on education from all sources rose from Rs. 3,91,028 in 1880-81 to Rs. 18,79,135 in 1910-11; the cost of education per head from Re. 0-1-6 to Re. 0-5-4. The school-going population has increased from 53,872 in 1880-81 to 1,38,153 in 1910-11 or nearly three times.

A few industries, small and large, including the gold mines of Kolar and the manganese mines of Shimoga and a few cotton and other mills have come into existence. But most of these are unconnected with local enterprise and, in themselves, afford no evidence of the progress of the people either in technical knowledge or co-operative spirit.

53. The above retrospect shows that the high standard of efficiency reached in the days of the British Commission has been maintained unimpaired, while, at the same time, a steady and substantial progress has been made in every department of the State. It shows, too, that the administration has been carried on with close loyalty to the principles followed by the previous British administration, that the slender surpluses have been carefully husbanded from year to year, and utilized in the construction of productive public works and the country has perceptibly advanced in material prosperity. The Government and the people have been brought into closer touch by the association of the people in local and municipal administration and in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council.

5.—Administrative Efficiency.

54. Since this Assembly came into existence, the wants of the people are better known to the officials and the intentions of Government better understood by the people.

The question of improving the efficiency of the services, has been receiving the anxious consideration of His Highness' Government. The latest measure for such improvement, as you are aware, is the sanction